

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4041

To authorize certain improvements in the Federal Recovery Coordinator Program, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 6, 2009

Mr. BARROW introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To authorize certain improvements in the Federal Recovery Coordinator Program, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4       Congress makes the following findings:

5               (1) Americans owe their freedom and livelihood  
6       to the sacrifices that have been made by brave vet-  
7       erans.

8               (2) The United States, therefore, has an obliga-  
9       tion to provide veterans with adequate care and re-

1 sources to make their transition into civilian life as  
2 smooth as possible.

3 (3) The Department of Defense and the De-  
4 partment of Veterans Affairs offer many high qual-  
5 ity services to help veterans in this transition, but  
6 there has not been a good mechanism for providing  
7 coordinated medical care for wounded warriors (vet-  
8 erans injured in the line of duty).

9 (4) The Dole-Shalala Commission has rec-  
10 ommended that a nationwide Federal Recovery Co-  
11 ordinator Program be implemented to help expand  
12 partnerships and collaborations and establish new  
13 relationships for the benefit of members of the  
14 Armed Forces returning from serving in support of  
15 Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring  
16 Freedom and their families.

17 (5) The Federal Recovery Coordinator Program  
18 has been implemented successfully at the city level  
19 in one city in the country and the existing program  
20 should serve as the model for national implementa-  
21 tion.

22 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENT OF FEDERAL RECOVERY COORDI-**  
23 **NATOR PROGRAM.**

24 (a) PROVISION OF COLLABORATIVE RECOVERY Co-  
25 ORDINATOR TRAINING.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-

1   fairs shall provide collaborative recovery coordinator train-  
 2   ing at a qualified nursing or medical school selected by  
 3   the Secretary (hereinafter in this section referred to as  
 4   the “qualified nursing or medical school”), to lead system-  
 5   atic evidence review of care coordination and consensus  
 6   conference to build the model on evidence-based guide-  
 7   lines.

8       (b)   LITERATURE   REVIEW;   CONSENSUS   CON-  
 9   FERENCE.—

10           (1)   IN GENERAL.—The qualified nursing or  
 11       medical school is hereby designated to lead literature  
 12       review and development of evidence-based guidelines  
 13       for recovery coordination, development of training  
 14       modules for care coordination and software that is  
 15       compatible with Department of Veterans Affairs sys-  
 16       tems for recovery coordination. The qualified nurs-  
 17       ing or medical school is hereby designated to lead a  
 18       consensus conference on evidence-based care coordi-  
 19       nation.

20           (2)   AUTHORIZATION   OF   APPROPRIATIONS.—

21       There is authorized to be appropriated \$1,200,000  
 22       to carry out this subsection.

23       (c)   CARE   COORDINATION   SOFTWARE   DEVELOP-  
 24   MENT.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans  
2   Affairs shall—

3           (A) enter into a subcontractor with an ap-  
4           propriate entity for the development of care co-  
5           ordination software;

6           (B) carry out a conference for recovery co-  
7           ordinator tool validation; and

8           (C) carry out a software pilot program.

9           (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—  
10   There is authorized to be appropriated \$1,200,000  
11   to carry out this subsection.

12   (d) RECOVERY COORDINATOR TRAINING.—

13           (1) IN GENERAL.—The qualified nursing or  
14           medical school is authorized to train 45 recovery co-  
15           ordinators.

16           (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For  
17           each of fiscal years 2010, 2011, and 2012, there is  
18           authorized to be appropriated \$500,000 for training  
19           authorized under this subsection.

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